General Observations

All eleven nominees were found to possess exceptional environmental settings. With the exception of East Hawksbill Creek, all nominees' are Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) Class I or Class II wild trout streams and satisfy the criterion of possessing an exceptional aquatic community. East Hawksbill Creek is unclassified by DGIF but is considered a native brook trout fishery and is listed as open for harvest by the National Park Service. All eleven water bodies provide exceptional recreational opportunities such as hiking, backcountry backpacking and camping, fishing, bird and wildlife watching, and photography. Motorized access to all streams is prohibited. Nominated segment boundary descriptions, accessibility, particularly outstanding features, and representative photos for each stream segment are provided in the following section.

East Hawksbill Creek

Boundary Description

East Hawksbill Creek in Page County from its headwaters downstream to the Shenandoah National Park boundary and all tributaries to this segment of East Hawksbill Creek within the confines of Shenandoah National Park.

East Hawksbill Creek is accessible by trail from the top at Skyline Drive by way of a connector trail to the Appalachian Trail.

Caution and an area map should be used, as the trail is difficult to locate. There is no access from the downstream boundary of the nominated segment. A cursory benthic survey was done and stoneflies and caddisflies were observed in the headwaters. Mayflies, stoneflies, caddisflies, and brook trout were observed farther (approx. 1/4 mile) downstream.



